(d) whether many State Governments and Union Government are taking steps to adopt better crop pattern and any survey/analysis has been conducted in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if so, the measures taken/proposed to be taken to arrest to shortage in foodgrains production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b) There is no major change in the cropping pattern in the country from foodgrain crops *vis-a-vis* non-foodgrain crops in the recent years. However, the total area under foodgrain crops which was 68.9 percent in 1990-91 has marginally declined to 66.9 percent in 1994-95 as against the increase in non-foodgrain crops from 31.1 percent in 1990-91 to 33.1 percent in 1994-95.

(c) This marginal change in the cropping pattern is not expected to lead any shortage of foodgrains has been rising over the years due to increase in productivity.

(d) and (e) There is no Survey report of States directing any specific cropping patterns. However, the analysis of the data available from land utilisation statistics shows that the farmers in respective States have generally adopted the judicious cropping pattern as per agro-climatic and soil conditions.

(f) To increase the production and productivity of foodgrains, the Government is implementing various crop specific development programmes/schemes, *viz.*,

(i) Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice, Wheat and Coarse Cereals based Cropping System Areas.

(ii) Accelerated Maize Development Programme.

(iii) National Pulses Development Project, etc.

Production of Grapes

3164. SHRI ANANT KUMAR HEGDE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased state:

(a) the total production of grapes in the country during 1995 and 1996, State-wise;

(b) the area under cultivation of grape orchardes in the country;

(c) whether any programme has been chalked out to increase the area under its cultivation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The production figures of grapes for 1995 and 1996 are not available. The latest data available for 1994-95 in this regard is as follows:

	States	Production in metric tonnes (1994-95)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	45700
2.	Haryana	19600
3.	Karnataka	157140
4.	Maharashtra	350437
5.	Punjab	61803
6.	Tamil Nadu	31030
7.	Others	7183
		672893

(b) As per latest information available, the area under grape cultivation in the country is around 42.1 thousand ha. during 1994-95.

(c) and (d) In order to increase area under grape cultivation, the Government of India is implementing a central sector scheme on integrated development of fruits including grapes under which assistance is being provided for area expansion, improving productivity through input supply, establishment of nurseries for providing quality planting material, training of farmers besides State Government plan schemes. In this connection, assistance is also given to instal drip irrigation system under the scheme 'Use of plastics in Agriculture'. In addition, NHB through State Government is extending assistance to farm families to grow fruit plants including grapes in rural areas under the scheme 'Establishment of nutritional garden in rural areas'. Board is also giving soft loan assistance for establishment of infrastructure for post harvest handling and marketing of horticultural produce including grapes to encourage farmers for its cultivation.

[Translation]

Agriculture Production

3165. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for the agriculture production for the current year and the achievements made in this regard;

(b) whether there is resentment among the farmers despite the increase in support price of wheat;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The targets and production during 1996-97 are given as below:

(Million tonnes)

	Target	Production
Foodgrains	193.50	198.17
Oilseeds	23.00	24.46
Sugarcane	270.00	270.97
Cotton*	13.00	14.53
Jute & Mesta**	9.00	10.99

* Million bales of 170 kgs. each.

** Million bales of 180 kgs. each

(b) No. Sir. The farmers have been satisfied by and large with the procurement price of Rs. 475 including the Bonus of Rs. 60 per quintal as reflected by the higher procurement of 9.3 million tonnes during the crop year 1996-97 as compared to 8.2 million tonnes last year.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Vacant Posts of Hindi Language

3166. DR. A.K. PATEL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of posts pertaining to official language Hindi have been lying vacant in some Ministries/ Departments of the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Ministry-wise and Department-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to fill up these vacant posts without any delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Posts pertaining to Official Language Hindi in the Ministries/Deptts. are filled up mainly from the officers of Central Secretariat Official Language service. At present some posts of this service are lying vacant.

(b) A statement is attached.

(c) All the posts of Junior Translators in the Central Sectt. Official Language service are filled up by the candidates provided by Staff Selection Commission. For filling up the vacancies for the year 1996-97 in this category, dossiers of candidates, who qualified the examination, are being sent by the Commission, the nomination of such candidates are being made by the Deptt. of Official Language to fill up the vacant posts of Junior Translators in various Ministries/Deptts. 50% of the vacant post of Asst. Director (O.L.) are filled up through U.P.S.C. and remaining 50% are filled up by promotion. All the vacant posts at present available in this category are to be filled up through Direct recruitment by U.P.S.C. for which two proposals have been sent to U.P.S.C. one in may 1995 and other in June 1996 respectively. The Commission in the process of selection of persons for the posts of Asstt. Director (O.L.) The Government is expecting recommendation in this regard shortly. Action is being taken to fill up one vacancy of Deputy Director and two posts of Sr. Translators.

Statement

List of Vacant Posts in various categories in various Ministries/Deptts. included in the Central Secretariat Official Language Services Cadre

Sl. No.	Name of Office	Director (OL)	Deputy Director (OL)	Asstt. Director (OL)	Sr. Translator	Junior Translator
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Ministry of Commerce	—	—	1	—	2
2.	Deptt. of Tele-Communication	—	—	1	—	1